

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1312

By McCormick

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Bill Bennett for his meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly specially recognize those citizens who, through an unflagging devotion to service and commitment to excellence in every endeavor, have distinguished themselves as public servants and leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Bill Bennett, a committed public servant who has dedicated his life to improving the quality of life for his fellow Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, Bill Bennett was appointed Assessor by the Hamilton County Commission, and in 1996, 2000, and 2004, he was elected to full terms as Assessor, in which position he serves with acumen and alacrity, earning the respect of the members of his community for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bennett was named the 1996 Assessor of the Year in Tennessee, and he dutifully served as President of the Tennessee Assessor Association from 1999-2000; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bennett was also elected as a member of the Hamilton County Commission in 1980, and he astutely served as Hamilton County Commission Chairman for three terms; and

WHEREAS, the very epitome of the American entrepreneurial spirit, Bill Bennett owned and operated an insurance company for many years, and he also diligently worked as an official at Combustion Engineering until 1986; and

WHEREAS, donating his time and many talents to numerous noteworthy organizations, Mr. Bennett is a member of the Chattanooga/Hamilton County Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Tennessee National Guard Employer Board, the Fall Creek Falls Bible Camp Board, the Mill

Run Community Club Board, the Greater Chattanooga Events and Sports Committee, and the Southeastern Conference Women's Basketball Tournament Committee; and

WHEREAS, Bill Bennett served as Chairman of the 1986 Ooltewah Homecoming, and he helped organize the Hillcrest Baseball League, serving as a coach for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bennett volunteered countless hours with the Harrison Baseball League, and he is a Life Member of the Central High Boosters; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Bill Bennett has received numerous awards and recognitions, including the 1989 Highway 58 Fire Department Board of Directors Award, the 1987 Tri-Community Volunteer Fire Department Community Service Award, the 1986 Hamilton County Government's Bonny Oaks Children's Award, the 1985 Highway 58 Fire Ambulance Service Continuing Support Award, and the 1984 Highway 58 Council Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Citizen Award; and

WHEREAS, his many professional and civic accomplishments aside, Bill Bennett is most thankful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife of forty-nine years, Marguerite, and their marriage has been blessed with one daughter, Lee Ann Forth, and two sons, J. B. Bennett and Brad Bennett; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, Bill Bennett is an active and faithful member of the Lake Hills Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bennett epitomizes the spirit of volunteerism and commitment to excellence that are characteristic of all true Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, throughout his many years of civic service, Bill Bennett has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of the members of his community, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize and honor Bill Bennett for his meritorious service to the good people of Hamilton County and the State of Tennessee and wish him every success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.